

(Brad Couldn't be here)

Senate Reforms, Restructuring and Reinventing Committee

Patri ~~CK~~ Baker
police

- Good afternoon, I'm Brad Leidal, President of the Mason Contractors Association, which represents 16 commercial masonry construction firms. I'm also a second generation mason contractor myself.
- I am here today to express my opposition to **Senate Bill 165**.
- Project labor agreements have been used for decades in both the public and private sector to facilitate construction projects.
- The use of a PLA is advantageous for the project owner as the agreement can be tailored to the requirements of the project as well as addressing a wide range of local needs.
- The use of a PLA can ensure on-time and on-budget project completion.
- ✓ • MCA members are currently working on projects for the Detroit Public Schools where a PLA is utilized.
- ✓ • In the City of Detroit, where unemployment is over 20%, the Detroit Public School's PLA states a primary goal of creating employment opportunities for Detroit residents by requiring 65% of journeyperson hours to be performed by Detroit residents.
- The PLA requires all parties to conduct three apprenticeship career fairs in the City of Detroit for each year of construction of the program.

- It requires contractors and unions to participate in the DPS program for job development and mentoring opportunities for young Detroiters.
- Together these initiatives offer Detroit residents an opportunity for a lifetime career in the construction industry and their earnings will stay in the community and contribute to Detroit's revitalization.
- The Detroit Public School's PLA strives to increase the safety and well-being of everyone on the worksite by including a mandatory drug and alcohol testing program.
- The projects will remain on schedule since the PLA eliminates the possibility of a work stoppage with no-strike, no-lockout language.
- And the PLA language does **not** exclude non-union contractors from bidding on program work.
- The Detroit Public School's Project Labor Agreement is working.
- The fact many such agreements often do work, both in the public and private sectors, is reason enough to continue allowing the **option** of using a PLA.
- On behalf of the mason contractor members of the MCA, I ask you to please vote NO on Senate Bill 165.
- Thank you.